

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A self-contained sampling/testing device comprising:

- a. a sampler for collecting target material from a sample;
- b. a signal generator comprising a dye which binds to said target material to signal the presence of said target material,

wherein said sampler contains an absorbent pad at the surface of which is positioned a membrane to which the dye is attached either covalently or non covalently.

2. - 12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently Amended) The device of claim ~~3~~ or 41 or 29, wherein said dye is a protein binding dye.

14. - 17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) The device of claim ~~1~~ 31, ~~further comprising~~ wherein said wetting/neutralizing solution comprises a neutralizing agent to neutralize any compounds in the sample that might interfere with the binding of said dye to said target material.

19. - 26. (Canceled)

27. (Currently Amended) The device of claim ~~26~~1 or 29, wherein said target material is protein.

28. (Canceled)

29. (Currently Amended) A self-contained sampling/testing device comprising:

a. a sampler for collecting target material from a sample;

b. a signal generator comprising a dye which binds to said target material to signal the presence of said target material~~The device of claim 1,~~

wherein said sampler contains an absorbent pad which has ~~a~~the dye attached directly to its surface either covalently or non covalently.

30. (Currently Amended) The device of claim ~~28~~1 or 29, ~~wherein a wetting/neutralizing solution is contained within~~further comprising a separate reagent housing containing an absorbent material and a wetting/neutralizing solution.

31. (Currently Amended) The device of claim ~~28~~1 or 29, wherein said ~~sampler contains an absorbent material which~~absorbent pad is pre moistened with wetting/neutralizing solution.

32. (Canceled)

33. (Currently Amended) The device of claims ~~28~~1 or ~~29-32~~29-32, wherein said dye is a frequency shift dye of the protein error family.

34. (Currently Amended) The device of claims ~~28-32~~33, wherein said dye is bromophenol blue.

35. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 18s ~~28-32~~, wherein said ~~wetting/neutralizing solution~~neutralizing agent is selected from the group consisting of sodium thiosulfate,  $MgCl_2$ , sodium dodecyl sulfate, tergitol, Triton X-100, and Tween 20.

36. (Currently Amended) A self-contained sampling/testing device comprising:

- (a) a sampler for collecting biological target material from a sample; and
- (b) a signal generator comprising a frequency shift dye of the protein error family, said dye being capable of binding to said biological target material and producing a color change upon binding to said target material wherein unbound frequency shift dye need not be separated from biological target bound frequency shift dye in order to detect the presence of target material,

wherein said sampler contains an absorbent pad at the surface of which is positioned a membrane to which the dye is attached either covalently or non covalently.

37. (Canceled)

38. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 36, further comprising a reagent housing containing a wetting agent.

39. (Original) The device of claim 36, wherein said dye is bromophenol blue.

40. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 36, further comprising a reagent housing containing a wetting solution, said solution comprising a neutralizing agent selected from the group consisting of sodium thiosulfate,  $MgCl_2$ , sodium dodecyl sulfate, tergitol, polyethylene glycol P-1,1,3,3-tetramethylbutylphenyl ether~~Triton X-100~~, and polysorbate 20~~Tween 20~~.